

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PCT161109	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/JP2004/016567	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 09 November 2004 (09.11.2004)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 29 March 2004 (29.03.2004)
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237		
Applicant CXE JAPAN CO., LTD.		

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 *bis*.1(a).
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Date of issuance of this report 29 November 2006 (29.11.2006)
Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70	Authorized officer <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Masashi Honda</div> e-mail: pt08@wipo.int

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

TRANSLATION

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

PCT161109

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/016567

International filing date (day/month/year)

09.11.2004

Priority date (day/month/year)

29.03.2004

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

Applicant

CXE JAPAN CO., LTD.

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/016567

Box No. I

Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/016567

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-8</u>	YES
	Claims _____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims _____	YES
	Claims <u>1-8</u>	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-8</u>	YES
	Claims _____	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

Document 1: US, 6444027, B1 (MEMC Electronic Materials, Inc.), 3 September, 2002 (03.09.02)

Document 2: US, 6184154, B1 (SEH America, Inc.), 6 February, 2001 (06.02.01)

Claim 1 does not appear to involve an inventive step in view of documents 1 and 2. Documents 1 and 2 respectively describe a support body having a gas supply passage formed between a wafer mounting surface and a wafer.

Claim 2 does not appear to involve an inventive step in view of documents 1 and 2. Document 2 discloses that gas supply to the gas supply passage takes place in the central region of the support.

Claims 3 and 4 do not appear to involve an inventive step in view of documents 1 and 2. Document 1 discloses that a purge gas such as nitrogen, argon and hydrogen is introduced, while document 2 discloses that a purge gas such as hydrogen and nitrogen is introduced.

Claim 5 does not appear to involve an inventive step in view of documents 1. Document 1 discloses that a feed gas containing Si is introduced onto a semiconductor wafer surface while the dopant atoms diffusing from the rear surface of the semiconductor wafer are led out by introducing a purge gas, such as N₂, Ar, H₂, their mixed gas or a feed gas, from the rear surface of the semiconductor wafer (see column 8, lines 30-40).

Claim 6 does not appear to involve an inventive step in view of document 1. Deciding on the part of the semiconductor wafer support to which purge gas is to be introduced is a matter that a person skilled in the art could have determined, taking account of the degree of the diffusion of dopant atoms from the rear surface of the semiconductor wafer.

Claims 7 and 8 do not appear to involve an inventive step in view of document 1. Document 1 discloses that purge gas such as nitrogen, argon and hydrogen is introduced.